

Pst. Oghenethoja Umuteme MSc MDiv ThD

Fruitful Vine



A Study Devotional

Evidence of Prosperity Day 1

Sustaining Wealth Day 8

Learning to Accept Change Day 11

Blessed to Dominate Day 14





Spending Time with God

Time	Description	Action
5:00am - 5:30am	Praising His awesomeness in the cool of the morning breeze and Dedicating of the day's activity. You may decide to do it outside to feel the cool morning breeze	Prayer/Praise
9:00am-9:05am	Read a Psalm of praise back to Him. Tell Him what you feel for Him in adoration and total submission	Praise
12:00noon - 12:30pm	It is noontime – half of the workday is gone. Tell Him thank you for allowing you cross over to the other half of the workday. Thank Him for all that transpired while you worked	Prayer/Praise
4:00pm- 4:05pm	Read another Psalms of Praise	Praise
6:00pm - 6:30pm	Thank Him for the day. You are probably now at home. Call the family together or a neighbour and worship Him together	Prayer/Praise
9:00pm - 9:05pm	Read a Psalms of praise after which you should take a rest while reading your bible and meditating	Praise
11:55pm - 12:30am	Thank Him for allowing you to see a new day and take control of the new day	Prayer/Praise

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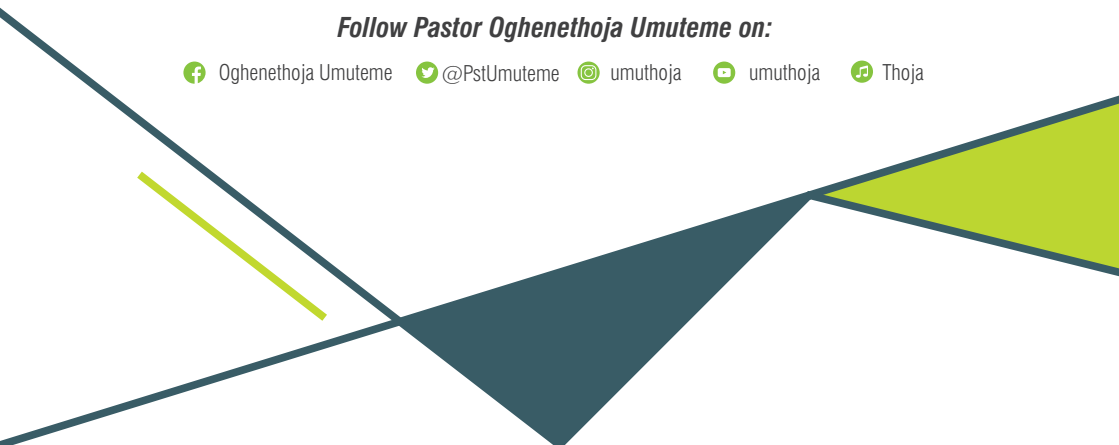
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Preface

August is here. This is the eight month of the year 2019. We have completed the second year of the global famine that the Lord revealed to me in 2012 and I publicised it then. Though many did not believe then, it is gradually dawning on those who received it that, indeed the famine has come to stay. We still have 7 years more. This is the time we must draw closer to the Lord.

In this devotional, I have discussed among others, how to manage our finances and how to receive and sustain the anointing. These discussions became necessary because of the global hardship going on right now, and knowing that we have 7 more years to go. But, I want to encourage you that your battle is being handled by the angels of God. This famine will not afflict you, but in the midst of the storm you shall become more established than you ever anticipated. I present to you, a devotional that will challenge the spiritual in you beyond this material world. I tell you – if you remain steadfast in the Lord, many will soon come to you to beg for food, and that you should lead them to your God. Open up your mind to study, and this devotional shall bless you abundantly, in the name of our Lord. Amen!

Pastor Oghenethoja Umuteme

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Evidence of Prosperity

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding. For by me thy days shall be multiplied, and the years of thy life shall be increased.. Proverbs 9:10-11



Before we go ahead with this topic, I will want to state some categorical truths – of what the evidence of prosperity is and not. We are admonished to know the truth in every circumstances we found ourselves – the truth about the person of God and His creation; the knowledge of the holy which brings increase. Why He created what He created, and why He allow some circumstances to come to us while defending us from others. What is prosperity? Is it the abundance of money? Is it fame? Is it about having houses and anything money can acquire? You see, naturally, as we have seen all around the world, humans don't look for truth when they are searching for money. This is because, the chase of money involve the telling of some kind of lies – to meet up time, to excuse oneself for not meeting up the deadline to pay back loans, to raise one's ego to fit into the call of wealth and fame., etc. I have equally learnt that when we struggle to meet the basic necessities of life, then we cannot say that we are prospering yet. Life begins with marriage – therefore, any marriage conceived in deceit will not prosper – meaning, such marriage will struggle to survive because of lack. God works with righteous people, and He can't be far away when the Bible is with you. It is also a fact that your enemies must not die before God can bless you, as we normally see in prayers for enemies to die. King David acknowledged that God blessed him in the presence of his enemies (Psa. 23:5). What was his secret to unending prosperity? This is captured in the concluding part of that Psalms 23:5, "...thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth

over." So, until the anointing comes, our cup cannot run over. And since the anointing comes upon us when we are willing and ready, the kingdom race is therefore an individual race. Meaning, the determination to be prosperous in God is also an individual race. To this end, I will want to say that life is made up of three things. First, we must have PROSPECT; meaning we must seek for opportunities to turn our lives around for the better, because life is about learning and there is a dew of prosperity coming your way (Ps.133:3) only if we can wait. There are some disappointments that will lead us to the highest place of honour. The next is – PURPOSE; which is an important element of prosperity. Let everything you do have a purpose that will not be faulted by the word and commandments of God. Lastly, you need PEOPLE to succeed. Who are your friends? Who do you reveal your secrets often? If they are not succeeding in life, how do you expect their counsel to help you make progress through life's unending trials of faith?

Faith confession: One thing I discovered today is that if one is on the right track of destiny, things will naturally work out, and we won't need to tell lies to live to meet the expectations of man.

Let us pray: Lord – I pray, that this devotional discussion set me on the right track to follow after your divine instructions unto prosperity. Release unto me the dew of Hermon. Amen!

Meditation: Psalms 23:1-6; Psalms 132:2-5

Keys to Fulfilling Your Destiny Here on Earth

And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Matthew 16:19



It's not all about praying without knowing what we need to prosper and have a fulfilling destiny in Christ; but we need to receive the keys that unlocks the blessings of God through our prayerful communication with God. The anchor verse above mentioned keys, not just one key – but a bunch of keys. The question is, how many of the keys have you received since you became born again? Is your relationship with God about the food and financial assistance you need from others? Have you not read that giving opens the doors of blessings than we keep receiving from others? You see, life depends on some basic principles that abounds in scripture, which we use daily to mould our thinking. In my deepest thoughts, I have come to see the following as the keys that I must have to live a life befitting of someone who have God on his side. Like David said in Psalms 16:6, “The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage.” Did you read where he said – “yea?” This is full assurance that he was really doing well by every standard. “Yea” means Yes. It is an affirmation of truth. Now, what do we find in pleasant places? Hosea 9:6 says that we can find silver in pleasant places. This, by extension include prospects of prosperity. In verse 7 of Psalms 16, David acknowledge that he had received all the goodness of life from God. Yet, Jeremiah 23:10, says that our prosperity can dry up if we are evil and involve in sexual immoralities. Now let me present to you my own keys of destiny. The

first key on my list is that of knowledge. This key was so important that Jesus rebuked the teachers of the law for denying the children of Israel the knowledge of God (Luke 11:52). I am determined daily to add to my wealth of knowledge so that I am not easily thrown apart by the devil. The second is the key of wisdom and understanding. In Exodus 31:3, we read of God filling those who will design and build all the furniture of His tabernacle with this key. So, I seek this key to remain relevant in the vineyard of God. The third is the key of true worship. Jesus says our father in heaven seek those who can worship Him in truth and in spirit (John 4:23). Meaning, anyone who is sincere in his/her worship to God will succeed. Was this not the secret of David? My very last key is that of power. I love power if you would ask me. I hate being intimidated by satanic elements (Matthew 28:18; Acts 1:8; Philipians. 4:13).

Faith confession: Lord! I am aware that before I can start demanding that God should bless me, I need to first understand His ways, because this will determine how much love I can show for His work.

Let us pray: Lord – let your wisdom announce me before everyone you have positioned to lift me up to glory and recognition. Help me to desire the knowledge that is useful and can bring honour to your name. Amen!

Meditation: Psalms 27:4-6;

Understand your Vision by the vision of God

*And the Lord answered me, and said,
Write the vision, and make it plain.... Habakkuk 2:2*



We cannot succeed alone. This is a very clear fact of life. Others must yield their own support to whichever vision we have received from God. To me, there is nothing I do that doesn't involve the plan and purpose of God. There is no information we want to learn – even in school that is not connected with the creations of God. So, whether we call it personal career or vision, our life depends on what God has instituted from the beginning. This is what we are categorically told that we cannot exist outside the plan of God, because whatever we make out of life is a continuation of the creative abilities that God inputted in us as recorded in in John 1:3-5, “All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.” Can you see the connection of God to all that we do here on earth? But, for every one of us to be part of this vision of God, to build the desolate places and become icons of success, our names must be written in the book of the lamb of God (Revelations 13:8). So, if we have visions that are failing, then God is not part of it. God cannot support a vision that will not enhance His glory upon earth. His interest should become our desire (Amos 3:3). The purpose of God in our lives is linked to our success here on earth – not just in the making of wealth, but in leaving a legacy that men can beat their chest to defend at all times. This is what God meant when He told Habakkuk to make the vision plain so that those who will run with the vision will understand the underlying purpose. Elisha continued from where Elijah

had stopped in ministry (2 Kings 2:14). If Elisha had not been closed to Elijah, he wouldn't have received the mentorship that enabled him to excel when the call came knocking at his door (2 Kings 3:11-12). Elisha was described thus, “And Jehoshaphat said, The word of the Lord is with him.” This was the same kind of description that favoured Joseph and Daniel. Why? It is because they had their vision in the utmost vision of God. Are you living a life that denounces the purpose of God in your life? Have you been so disconnected from Him that you can feel that inner emptiness of alienation? You see, God knows your expected end (Jeremiah 29:11); and it will be out of place to think we can really succeed without being on errand for Him. God is willing to open up secrets to you – deep secrets that can help you and your generation to come out of want. It is all about relationship. Champion His righteous course, and you will be smiling all day long. If you are willing to run errands for Him, He is faithful to reward abundantly. Can you preach the gospel? This is one errand you can run that moves His heart.

Faith confession: Lord! I always feel an inner emptiness in me when I am disconnected from you. I have made up my mind to reconnect my vision back to the vision of God.

Let us pray: Lord! Help me to reconsider my steps. Help me to know where I might have missed it in the past, and let me live my days upon earth in your vision. Direct me to your path of glory Amen!

Meditation: John 4:37-38; 2 Kings 2:14

The Joy of Building a relationship with God

*A little one shall become a thousand, and a small one a strong nation:
I the Lord will hasten it in his time. Isaiah 60:22*



The anchor verse says what can happen to anyone who follows the precepts of God. It is about increase on all side. God gives you the ability to lead. As we have read – no matter how little you think you are in the sight of men, with God – you can do what a thousand people can do. What does this tell us? You are mighty. You are a voice in the midst of many. You are someone men run to for counsel. You are the desire of everyone. We can see this happen in the life of King Solomon. He was a nobody, because the circumstances that surrounded his birth was not a palatable story as David had married the wife of another after sending him to be killed at the war. How can we receive all this? The answer is what we have been discussing from the first day of August. It is about building an enduring relationship with God. The holy Angels only reward those who follow the will of God. This is because the duty of Angels is to ensure this world is at peace. Those who can support this heavenly purpose are those that are into a rewarding partnership with God. He uses them as His helping arm to reach others in need. And we can get a clue from the greatest sermon of all time that was preached by our Lord – Jesus, himself on the mount. A summary of that long sermon is found in Matthew 5. Meekness is the first character we must display to enable us enjoy what the anchor verse is saying as found in verse 5: “Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.” What does it take to be meek? One need to be submissive and humble to the call and instructions of God. It is a yes –yes-yes, all the way to whatever God is interested in, and a no-no-no, to whatever offends Him. From

verse 6 through 9, we see the other attributes of those who are in partnership with the call of God for mankind. I am a servant of God – serving others, so I get rewarded for serving humanity. Simple – isn't it? Just serve where God wants you to serve and His Angels will bless you with your reward by connecting you with those who have what you are looking for. Even if the one holding what you need is a devil, the Angels will take it from him/her. Verse 10 summed it all – righteousness. That is following the purpose of God in doing what God knows how to do, the way Jesus did it here on earth. Relationship is built on trust and truth. We quarrel often because of the evil living in our heart. There is a foundation for every word we utter. We end up misinterpreting people's mind because of what we harbour against them. In all these, we can succeed if we can start to do those things that pleases God.

Faith confession: Lord, I am so privileged to know that I can walk and work with you to ensure this world becomes a place of your habitation. I am even, more willing now than before. Teach me to follow..

Let us pray: My Lord, in the multitude of my sins, have I cried unto you. Let your mercy take me to your bosom, as I await your next instruction to work and champion the course of salvation upon the face of this earth. Let my heart keep yielding for that your instructions. Sustain me with the grace to follow. Amen!

Meditation: Romans 12:1-2; 2 Chronicles 7:1-22; Malachi 1:1-14

Boldness by Mercy

*O satisfy us early with thy mercy;
that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. Psalms 90:14*



What we fear is what takes us far away from the mercy and grace of God. It is the reason many join cults and all manner of evil gatherings. The danger about fear is that it makes us look helpless and defenceless. In the anchor verse, we read a prayer of how to confront the fears that come daily as we live; the fear of what to eat, of an impending enemy attack, of sorrows, of death, of failure ... etc. We only need the mercy of God, and this has to come early. Can God grant mercy upon those who are arrogant to His will? Those who think they are above God? Those who by reason of their position of glory, hate to obey God's instructions? Let's go back to the anchor verse again. We can be satisfied with the mercy of God. There is more to what this scripture is saying. Merely reading it will not reveal the importance of the mercy of God upon our souls. Merely praying for mercy is still a far cry from what God demands for Him to grant us access to His mercy. While we can get a plenary mercy through our continuous followership of Christ, we only become satisfied with this mercy when we become doers of the word. As we have said in earlier discussions, we join the hosts of heaven in hating evil and following after righteousness. To be satisfied with mercy is to be counted among the faithful; those who we refer to as saints. Let's take a look at what can make God draw you to Himself – His Holy self, as espoused in Psalms 26:1-7: "Examine me, O Lord, and prove me; try my reins and my heart. For thy loving kindness is before mine eyes: and I have walked in thy truth. I have not sat with vain persons, neither will I go in with dissemblers. I have hated the congregation of

evil doers; and will not sit with the wicked. I will wash mine hands in innocence: so will I compass thine altar, O Lord: That I may publish with the voice of thanksgiving, and tell of all thy wondrous works." This is what Jesus was expecting from those He healed and forgave their sins, but when they refused to repent – He cursed them for eternity, in Matthew 11:20-24. So far, we have seen that the only escape from fear is receiving the full and satisfying mercy of God. To obtain this mercy, we studied that we must become sinless and spotless. And, to have an understanding of what is needed from us to obtain the satisfying mercy of God, we read Psalms 26:2-7. Once we receive His enduring mercy, we become bold to live a life of peace and satisfaction. Prayers alone cannot solve our problems, because for prayers to yield results God must respond positively. And, we cannot approach God in sin. My take is that, to overcome the fear of failure, we must boldly overcome sin.

Faith confession: Lord – Jesus! Today I have the knowledge that confessing you alone does not stop me from sin, and that I must be determined to face it once and for all. It is a no-no to sin, if I must succeed.

Let us pray: My precious Lord and saviour, I am willing to live a life without sin, but how can I do this when I am surrounded with sin. I plead for your mercy and grace to lead me out of this burden. Amen!

Meditation: Psalms 69:16; Nehemiah 1:11; Proverbs 28:13

Taking Hold of Time Before Sunset

And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. Romans 13:11



We must awake out of sleep if we want to live. David's determination to champion the course of God made him work so hard (Psalms 132:1-5). If you understand how to settle the case with the Angels of God, they can grant you mercy to live and succeed because they are easy to access (Psalms 34:7). This was the story of Lot. He demanded to be allowed to dwell in a city provided the Angels will not destroy the city, and the Angels approved it, but under an instruction which his wife defied and was turned into a pillar of salty ashes (Genesis 19). If you want to succeed early in life, you need to appreciate the ministry of Angels and support their ministry. It is important to recognise their presence, as they follow the Holy Spirit. Now, the Holy Spirit proceeds from God – meaning, coming out of God to fulfil the mind of God. Angels help you to respond to the bidding of God through the Holy Spirit. How is this done? Let say you are in need of house rent or school fees, or food to eat, and that without this provision you cannot fulfil the demand of God – that is, what God wants you to accomplish in life for His name and glory. The duty of Angels here is to provide those lack, so that you can respond to God quickly. If however, you receive your desire and fail to do the bidding of the Holy Spirit from God, they will come back and take – to the very last, all the help you have received from the realm of the spirit and ensure you become wretched. This is often the reason many are sick without cure and suffering from lack. Let's take some examples – the Israelites were provided with Angels food, so that they would survive their

forty years in the wilderness (Exodus 16:35; Joshua 5:12; Psalms 78:24-25). The manna was to point to salvation, but the people didn't understand that the manna was just a palliative measure provided by angels (John 6:49-51). Elijah was so tired, and couldn't have gotten to Horeb – the Angel of the Lord gave Him food twice (1 Kings 19:5, 7), but did not give Elijah the solution, yet the Angel made Elijah to know that the journey was farther than Elijah must have prepared for. After the temptation, Jesus was exhausted and needed food, angels brought Him food and clothing, and to go on errand for Him (Matthew 4:11). Hence, we can say that Angels provides us with succour so that you can fulfil your task before it is dark. This is why it is ideal to start your journey in life early. I am not happy when youths just keep wasting time on things that have no value – gambling, partying, satanic Instagram posts and gossip, Facebook idolatry...etc. If we want a miracle, we must also be prepared to follow after the will of God else, the angels will strip us naked.

Faith confession: I understand that there is really no time to waste. Angels want to help me, but my vision and plan must be in line with that of God, else they won't come to my aid.

Let us pray: Dear Lord, I pray for your guide as I begin to follow your vision for my life. Teach me early to know why you send me down to earth and what I should accomplish before I return to you. Amen!

Meditation: John 9:4; Psalms 132:1-5

Wealth making and financial planning

*The way of life is above to the wise,
that he may depart from hell beneath. Proverbs 15:24*



We are admonished in the anchor verse that the instructions to live a meaningful life is from above. This sets the stage for our devotional for today. Wealth making starts with the altar of God. The altar possess the wealth in the land, because this is where the apportioning of wealth to whoever will be favoured starts from, because altars houses Angels - the ones who administer all that belongs to God here on earth. This is why we, as the children of the new covenant, must manifest the glory of God (Matthew 5:16). There is more to the reason Jesus gave His life as a ransom for our salvation. Apart from having eternal life, it is to enable us remain sustained in the wealth and abundance of God. Of what use is all the goodness God has created on earth if His elects and those who remain steadfast to His will are in need. We make wealth by scouting for opportunities, knowing the environment, implementing our plans, monitoring our performance and then reviewing our plans so we can make amends. The question is, how can we do all these without hearing from above? This is where our relationship with God comes in. Now, we said that we cannot make wealth without an altar backing us – well, this is true. I don't need to explain further. To possess the land of Canaan, Abraham had to raise altars. Some will argue if Bill Gates is connected to any altar – well, I don't know about Bill Gates' spiritual life. The truth remains, that wealth making is strictly an altar endeavour. This is where the one who oversees the altar spiritually comes in. Wealth is provided for those who will

champion the work of God through the Angels. Every called servant of God work with Angels, who expects the servant of God to be on his duty post so that he can keep receiving instructions from heaven through them as permitted by the Holy Spirit. Now, the Holy Spirit transforms the servant's eyes and ears to perceive spiritual reality anytime there is an information to be transmitted. A spiritual cloud is activated whenever this is about to happen. We often feel it during a praise and worship session in His altar, as long as the career of the anointing is in our midst. The upper room experience in Acts 2, was possible because the anointing in Peter and the task of being the rock of the church needed to be activated, hence he was the one that spoke to the passers-by during the encounter. So, the servant of God tells you the mind of God, and guides you on how you will succeed as delivered by the Angels.

Faith confession: I understand that if I accept to follow the instruction of God, the Angels will ensure that I have my way into wealth, and will teach me how to guide my finances with discretion, so that I don't come into poverty again.

Let us pray: My Lord, link me to your altar of grace - where I will be sustained in your wealth and prosperity, where I will be given the instructions of what to do to fulfil your will for my destiny. Amen!

Meditation: Jeremiah 17:5-8; John 6:28-29

Sustaining Wealth

*The evil bow before the good;
and the wicked at the gates of the righteous. Proverbs 14:19*



Now that you are making wealth, you equally need to sustain it. The anchor verse above says that the evil and wicked one will come to bow before the righteous. God hates those who perpetrates evil. In the book of Nahum, as we read from chapter one through chapter 3, one thing kept resounding throughout this book – that God is a jealous God, who is ready to punish the wicked. This means that God is ready to give the wealth of the wicked into the hands of those who are faithful unto Him. What evil did Nahum cry against? They include idolatry, prostitution, lying, stealing, murders, faithlessness and owning of vows. All these can be summarised to mean disobedience to the will of God. What this means is that those who refuse to heed the instructions and guidance of God, and to champion the duty of God upon this earth, that God has apportioned to His Angels will always experience denials. Someone met me to find out if poverty is as a result of wickedness. I only know that Psalms 112:3 says, “Wealth and riches shall be in his house: and his righteousness endureth for ever.” How does this happen? The answer is in the verse that follows: “Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness....” Meaning, while there is hardship all around the world, those yielding to the leading of God are surviving and doing exploits. The character of God is the purpose of God, and those who stand for this must be, “...gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous.” This is the reason God will keep sustaining our wealth through His Angels just like He did in Eden, by ensuring no one accesses the tree of life

except on special permission. Those who have access to the tree of life are those who show real evidence of everlasting joy and peace in their service of God. We sustain wealth by sustaining the companionship of the Holy Spirit and the Angels of God. This way, we are sure that our soul is preserved from satanic influences and deceits. Our ability to sustain the wealth of God in our lives is also linked to how grateful we are to Him. This was why Moses warned the children of Israel in Deuteronomy 8:17, “And thou say in thine heart, My power and the might of mine hand hath gotten me this wealth.” This is a heart that boast in self-praise. You see, the thoughts we harbour influences how we revere God when we have made wealth. This is why it is very key that we become mindful of our associations the moment we are saved. Paul advised, thus, “Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners” 1 Corinthians 15:33.

Faith confession: I understand that I have to be mindful of my associations and my thoughts as I sail in the ocean of wealth. I need to equally be careful about my utterances before God and others.

Let us pray: Lord! I have read your word. Give me power to sustain the wealth you have given to me. Restore unto me the joy of your salvation all the days of my life, and let my generation serve you. Amen!

Meditation: Psalms 112:1-8; Mark 8:36-37; Proverbs 21:6-7

Living a Debt-Free Life

*The rich ruleth over the poor,
and the borrower is servant to the lender. Proverbs 22:7*



The poor and borrower are two kinds of people mentioned in the anchor verse above. The rich rules over the poor because the poor is always going back to the rich to beg for alms, and they are the ones politicians buy their votes to get into power. From here, they will make rules that impoverishes the poor more. They take away the joy of the poor from them. For instance, the public schools that the poor attends in Nigeria are without funds, while the rich politicians steals the funds to build personal expensive schools for their class. So, the poor is truly ruled by the rich. For the borrower, once he is unable to pay back that which he or she borrowed, he or she will submit to become a servant to the lender by paying back in kind. In either ways, it is not ideal to keep remaining poor or living on borrowed funds or items. It is because of the above that scripture warns in Philippians 3:2, "Beware of dogs, beware of evil workers, beware of the concision." You cannot beg from those who have the character of dogs without receiving a bite. Evil workers are not lovers of God. To avoid concision is to avoid people with a loquacious attitude – people who talk too much. These sets of people will make it difficult for you to succeed. In some cases, our inability to meet up with our needs is not spiritual. It could be that we did not take out time to plan our lives early. Like we discussed before, many waste their youthful days on worthless events and associations in life. I always like telling people to set out a five-year plan and follow up the plan for your life. We need to be proactive in life; planning ahead of today. Most of us are reactive; solving the problem when it comes. The first question I usually asked myself is – "If I fail in what I am

about to embark on, or If I lose all that I have, what is the backup plan?" What else is in place to ensure the enemy does not see your downfall? Sometimes, when I know there is never going to be a plan B, I will ensure that I give all my attention – physically and spiritually to watch over the plan I have, to ensure it succeeds all through. It is like keeping all your eggs in a basket and watching over the basket. What can you do now? What opportunities are there for you to improve on what you want to do now? Where can you get funds? Who will you meet to partner with? Are there trainings you must attend to improve? All these are questions and others you must answer to start doing something that will improve your life. A life of want is not ideal for a child of God. We must learn to live on what we earn. Borrowing reduces our glory before others. Who will want to serve a God that is unable to provide for those that serve Him? No one will listen to your gospel, because the gospel is good news – so, if you are in debt, how does that represent the good news you preach to others?

Faith confession: Lord! I am determined to live a debt-free life through proactively planning my life on time. I will start the 5-year plan of my life today.

Let us pray: Eternal rock of ages, grant me the wisdom and strength to continually do something honourable to put food on my table, clothing to wear and shelter upon my head – Amen!

Meditation: 2 Kings 4: 1-7; 2 Kings 6:5; Romans 13:8

How Have You Fared on Earth?

*I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go:
I will guide thee with mine eye. Psalms 32:8*



The anchor verse tells us the desire of God for mankind. He is prepared to lead through the path that will enable us live to please Him, only if we allow Him on time. But, we can still do that today. We must know what our destiny is, and this is only when we will be able to score ourselves, if we have done well or not. As we read Psalms 32:1-9, we come across some further guidance. Let see – “Be ye not as the horse, or as the mule, which have no understanding: whose mouth must be held in with bit and bridle, lest they come near unto thee. Many sorrows shall be to the wicked: but he that trusteth in the Lord, mercy shall compass him about.” To avoid the sorrows of life, we are cautioned in the above scripture portion not to behave like the horse or mule that forgets instructions easily as the owner will have to keep using the whip to enable it stay on track. The facts from the above scriptures are clear. What have you learnt about life? Direction to success is not only physical but also spiritual. The spiritual element is the guidance from God. The physical element of success is how we possess the characters and attitudes that can make us sustain the favour from men. This is why to succeed well in life, you must persuade people to follow your vision with clear evidence that you know what you are doing? To fulfil your destiny on earth, you must be able to please God always and always, as we have read severally in the past devotionals. This is why we will keep listening to the voice of direction daily, else we will miss our track to success. To me, Isaiah 42:16 is very key on this, “... I will bring the blind by a way that they knew not; I will lead them in paths that they have not

known: I will make darkness light before them, and crooked things straight. These things will I do unto them, and not forsake them.” From this scripture passage, we learnt that – people fail because they walk groping in darkness, hence the need for the spiritual source of illumination. Again, we also experience difficulties in life because we walk in crooked paths – with crooked information. Hence, there the need to get the right information in whatever you plan to do. Aside from allowing God to lead us, we must ensure we follow hard after Him. King David says that this is possible when God holds his hand, in Psalms 139:10, “Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me.” For this to happen, there must have being a longing to do the things that pleases God, as David acknowledged in Psalms 63:8, “My soul followeth hard after thee: thy right hand upholdeth me.” You can see from this Bible verse that our relationship with God involves our soul. Where is your soul right now? By this we mean, what fills your thoughts and drives your passion for life?

Faith confession: Lord! Today's devotional has again showed that if I do not want to live a life of sorrow, I must continually submit myself unto your watchful eyes and instructions.

Let us pray: Dear Lord! I know it is difficult for my soul to follow hard after you, yet I pray that as you sustained King David in His days and enabled Him to love you, equally sustain my faith in you. Amen!

Meditation: Revelations 3:18;

Learning to Accept Change

... light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light. John 3:19

If there is one problem the Israelites were having with their faith in God in the wilderness, it is the inability to accept change. This was why they were always complaining against Moses, until they led him to disobey God. Even now, most of the people that come to lift up hands and claiming that they want to serve God, are already leading their pastor's astray as the pastors now want to perform miracles at all cost. We can see the effect of complaints in Numbers 11:1, "And when the people complained, it displeased the Lord: and the Lord heard it; and his anger was kindled; and the fire of the Lord burnt among them, and consumed them that were in the uttermost parts of the camp." Complains against God brings disasters to us. Why were the Israelites crying in the wilderness? It was because they remembered their fruitless eating freely in sorrow and were not determined to follow through the demanding process of a fruitful and glorious change – Numb. 11:5-6, "We remember the fish, which we did eat in Egypt freely; the cucumbers, and the melons, and the leeks, and the onions, and the garlick: But now our soul is dried away: there is nothing at all, beside this manna, before our eyes." We become rejected by His Angels when we refuse to accept the change that we must go through, to become purified as vessels unto honour pleasing for the use of God. All the feet-dragging and murmuring will not help us to stay in success for that long. Now, let's take this to our natural life. We were once children, then we became who we are today. In 1 Corinthians 13:11, Paul teaches that change is inevitable, and we must be willing to accept the new life that change has brought upon us, "When I was a child, I spake as a child,

I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things." I have seen adults behave like children. I have equally seen leaders behave as though they lack the clue to what is demanded of them (Eccle. 10:1). When we rise to positions of authority by the grace of God, is it right that we let the whole world know we never prepared for the position? Yet, this is what we do when we start to fail. Today, we see married women behaving as though they are spinsters who are yet to understand the demands of marriage. The same goes to young men, who after marriage still keep late nights without sitting to plan with their wife. I have seen graduates behave as though they never attended school. The list is endless. Change is inevitable. It is not always about who or what you were yesterday. I love to hear the purpose of the now, not about how you were rich or born of rich parents. Somehow we are where we are today, how can we accept this reality, and move forward into a more befitting life to the glory of God?

Faith confession: I am ready for that change that will give me a better life. Let the change come – the change from want into a life of milk and honey. Let the glory come – It is my turn to rejoice.

Let us pray: Lord – Jesus! I am willing to follow you on this journey through the path of change. Help me to accept this renewal of mind coming my way. Help me to depend on you with all willingness of mind. Amen!

Meditation: Ecclesiastes 10:1-20; Psalms 57:1-11: John 3:16-19

The Spirit of Financial Planning

Now I have prepared with all my might for the house of my God. 1 Chronicles 29:2



Financial planning is about thinking ahead, strategizing ahead, preparing ahead and achieving ahead. So, it is about taking care of all the unknowns of the future to prevent “had I know.” It is important that we plan for old age; children school fees; house rent or renovating your personal house; paying taxes on revenue generated; medical bills should one fall ill; helping and assisting genuine people needing help that can lift them from being beggars to givers; buy books to read and starting a new training program; learning or improving on your trade or business; leisure – spending time out with your family and friends to have a bite of godly pleasure; giving to support the work of God in your midst, etc. We can see that financial planning is more of taking hold of tomorrow financially before we get there. It is more like having a good-to-go budget plan of what you expect to achieve in the very near future. I usually plan for 5 years. It makes me to know what I need to do now to ensure I do not cry for financial help from others tomorrow. It is not a good idea for children of light to beg for financial help except in rare cases, when what came your way is emergency. Yet, we can still show restraint in begging for financial support. A good financial plan includes a mention of all the sources of financial income into the home. If you do not know how to do this, you can consult the internet and search through google. This is important for youths, rather than waste time on issues and posts on Facebook, WhatsApp and Instagram that will not add any positive impact to your life. Always remember that you are no longer getting younger, and that there are many behind you

who also need to live their life. Therefore, it is good to start a career plan early. We cannot remove career planning from financial planning. Both complements each other. King Solomon, in his encounter with others concluded that with money anything is possible (Ecclesiastes 10:19). This shows the power of money and why it should be planned, else it will be wasted as Solomon noticed in the verse referenced: “A feast is made for laughter, and wine maketh merry: but money answereth all things.” Solomon used his money to acquire material fame and women, and so he was not a good financial planner in this regard, hence his later days were filled with sorrow – to the extent he depended on magical powders and 60 valiant war-armed men to protect him while asleep (Song of Solomon 3:6-8). In his days, the children of Israel were taxed heavily (1 Kings 12:11). And all he spent the money on was on self-aggrandizements and lust (Songs of Solomon 3:10; Ecclesiastes 2:1-8). Remember, Solomon never asked for wealth, but God gave him beyond his expectation (2 Chronicles 1:7-12).

Faith confession: I understand that as I serve God, I should equally know that He will give me wealth, and that I need to plan before the wealth will come.

Let us Pray: Lord! As David lived, you made him to prosper and gave him the wisdom to plan for your house. Help me also to plan the wealth you are bringing my way, so that I won't waste them. Amen!

Meditation: Psalms 23:1-5; 1 Chro 29:1-2

Character of a financial planner

A good man ... will guide his affairs with discretion. Psalms 112:5



The number one character of a financial planner is the ability to demonstrate discretion in whatsoever we do. Discretion as used here is related to mindful observation and taking the right decision on financial issues all the time. I will therefore concentrate on explaining discretion in the light of the subject of discussion with focus on Isaiah 28:23-29. Here, we see that those that guide their affairs with discretion are those God had empowered through instruction and teaching (Isaiah 28:26), so that he or she knows exactly how to invest to get more increase. Hence, there is a time to till the soil and there is a time to sow the different crops in their rightful places (Isaiah 28:24-25). The process of tilling the ground and the instrument to use, the means of getting the grains before they are planted in the prepared soil, demonstrates prudence and discretion. Now, let's take it back from the farmer and bring it to the business man. The farmer had seeds he preserved or saved money to buy to sow. The business man would have saved money for future investment. The farmer used the right instruments to prepare the soil, the business man must invest wisely by acquiring the relevant knowledge and employing professionals in the area of business. The farmer planted the seeds in the rightful places. This is accountability – it helps the farmer to know how the grains are fairing and to prevent the easy transfer of diseases. If we bring this to business, it equally means that we should gather the earnings we make from different businesses in separate accounts. We should equally separate the operation of one business from the other, so that we can measure success easily, and know when things are not working according to plan. We can as

well extend the learning above to our paid employments and whatever we do. Since, we equally need to work with others to succeed in whatever investment we have put in place, there is the need that we also learn how to relate with others. We must manage our anger else all our glory of prosperity will crumble one day. Scripture says in Proverbs 19:11, "The discretion of a man deferreth his anger; and it is his glory to pass over a transgression." Implying, those who manages their anger and refuses to let their anger to drive them into taking a rash decision are honoured with respect. It is a sign of maturity in our walk with God, and as recounted earlier – God instructs and teaches us on what decision to take and why we should take the decision. Those who cannot manage their anger will not have God guiding and leading them unto greater achievements in life. This shows that we must revere God and all that concerns Him (Prov. 9:10). We must also demonstrate patience so that we can take decisions in our right senses (Luke 21:19). A good financial planner watches before he spends, and watches as he spends.

Faith confession: Lord! I understand that wealth making goes with financial planning, and that financial planning demands that we demonstrate discretion and patience and revere God.

Let us pray: Lord – Jesus, from all that I have read today, I pray that you grant me the ability to make the right decision in financial spendings and investments. Brake the yoke of indecision off me Amen!

Meditation: Psalms 23:1-6; Psalms 86:1-17

Blessed to Dominate

*And his brethren said to him, Shalt thou indeed reign over us?
or shalt thou indeed have dominion over us? Genesis 37:8*



Now that we are talking of financial planning, I want us to digress a little bit so we can understand the source of wealth again, so that we do not lost track of where our inheritance and license to make wealth comes from. Abraham was going to become rich and nothing was going to stop this because the heavens and earth had responded to the decree of God concerning him when God first spoke to him in Genesis 12:3, "And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed." Abraham left his home with all he had, because he knew the journey was a journey of no-return. The bible recorded that there was famine in the land, and Abraham progressed to Egypt (vs10). There he had a challenge that made him to give away his wife until God restored her back to him. When Pharaoh discovered that Sarah was Abraham's wife, he was sent out with all he had, and what Pharaoh had given to him. Now, why did I bring this story? Earlier in Genesis 12:7, the LORD appeared unto him and spoke with him with a resounding promise that the land will be fruitful., and Abraham had built an altar there. But, the physical desert land was barren – no food was on it (vs 10). Does this wither the faith in Abraham? No! He saw the land, with no fruit in it, and he went to Egypt. Then, the LORD brought him back again to the same land, now he was already very rich – Genesis 13:2, "And Abram was very rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold." Then a feud arose between his men and those of his nephew. Then to settle their disagreement, Abraham allowed Lot to have his way, and he chose the best part of the land – Sodom inhabited by wicked men (Gen. 13:12). Yet, amid Abraham's bewilderment, God was

working out something for Abraham to observe. The land was dry now, but it won't be dry forever. So, God told him to investigate the land, and that even Sodom will be given to him and his generation (Gen. 13:14-18). It took years, after several events, including Isaac's ordeal with Abimelech, Jacob's ordeals and his children becoming slaves in Egypt, before the land finally became the land flowing with milk and honey (Exodus 3:8). Through these years, God used others to develop the land (Deuteronomy 6:10-11; John 4:37). Are you still doubting what God can do? The blessings of God upon your life now may not have manifested in the physical, but your steadfastness will make your generation to swim in abundance in their own time. Do not loose faith, because you notice dryness around you now. What the wicked occupies now, even the seat of government will soon become the inheritance of the children of light. Do not be distracted. No matter the trials of faith. Stay standing with the LORD.

Faith confession: Lord! I am not losing my faith – not after studying through this devotional topic for today. I am ready to serve you steadfastly and trusting in your righteousness to fulfil your promises.

Let us pray: Lord! Sometime what I see in the physical makes it difficult for me to believe that I can ever receive breakthrough. But your word is yes and yes concerning my destiny. Strengthen me to stand firm till the end and guide me daily in your word. Amen!

Meditation: Hebrews 4:11-16; Proverbs 10:30; Psalms 37:9-11; Proverbs 13:22

The Children of Belial

*But the sons of Belial shall be all of them as thorns thrust away,
because they cannot be taken with hands. 2 Samuel 23:6*



The anchor verse says the children of Belial must be avoided, in the last words of David before he died. These children are under the influence of the Melchiresa spirit. The children of light are guided by the Melchizedek anointing order. But, the children of darkness are under the influence of the Melchiresa anointing. You can do further study on the Melchiresa archdemon. Our interest here is knowing those we interact with and reveal our secrets to. You might be talking with someone, meanwhile the evil demon in him or her is picking the information to undo you. Until you are certain that the person you call a relative or friend is possessed with the anointing of Melchizedek, please hold your mouth. This is because since the devil and his demons can not read your heart, they rely on what you reveal to attack your plans in life, and you keep seeing that whatever you plan to achieve is hitting the rock. Now, let's talk of the topic of discussion. The first time this name occurred in scripture is in Deuteronomy 13:13 when Moses revealed the one behind the decision of certain men, who rebelled against God: "Certain men, the children of Belial, are gone out from among you, and have withdrawn the inhabitants of their city, saying, Let us go and serve other gods..." From here, we see that these people are always there to cause trouble and to fight every move of God. In all scripture references to the children or sons of Belial, they are always identified with evil – fighting, quarrelling, intimidation, disobedience and sexual harassment and rape (1 Samuel 2:12, 1 Samuel 10:26-27; Judges 19:22-25). You cannot have these as your companions and expect to prosper in life, because they are out to

challenge your glory and inheritance. So, ensure you do away with them. When we talk of succeeding in life, we really endeavour to avoid anything that will distract us and make it hard for us to trust God. Our spouses can be under the influence of Belial. That your best friend might be acting under the influence of Belial. So, if you don't want someone who will destroy your glory, avoid the children of darkness. They are everywhere around us – in our families, in schools, in your meetings, in government, in the church – they are everywhere. Watch out for them – they are the wolves Jesus warned us of. They are very good at listening to what you have to say, then will use it against you. Jesus referred to them as children of this world, and he warned us against them – "...for the children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light." They come in pretence, only to devour you in the end. They are the girls who dresses in nudity and seductively and have married men whom they lured in their lust to destroy their destiny. Nothing good comes out of such marriages. Caution! Watch out for them!

Faith confession: Lord! I understand that I must avoid those bearing evil in their lips and actions to succeed in life, since their presence is characterised with doom.

Let us pray: Lord, I am willing to adhere to your will for my life. Quicken me to know the children of Belial and help me to avoid their advances, advices and friendship. Amen!

Meditation: 2 Samuel 23:1-7; 1 Thessalonians 5:22

Drinking from the cup of destiny

And he said, Abba, Father, all things are possible unto thee; take away this cup from me: nevertheless not what I will, but what thou wilt. Mark 14:36



We all have our individual cup of destiny to drink from (Matthew 26:42). This was the cup of the wrath of God against the children of sin. By drinking from this cup, we all have now received this enduring freedom from power of death. We must follow behind the Lord to bear his yoke and burden (Matthew 11:29) – the salvation of the whole universe. In Mark 10:39, the disciples assured Him that they will continue the work of the father, “And they said unto him, We can. And Jesus said unto them, Ye shall indeed drink of the cup that I drink of; and with the baptism that I am baptized withal shall ye be baptized.” To drink from the cup of destiny is to do the biddings of the Lord concerning our lives. We are all here on earth for a reason. God did not send us here to please ourselves, but to please Him. Therefore, we keep going back to Him to tell us where we have gone wrong and how we have fared. To make the task easy for us, the Lord has sent His voice – as a good Shephard behind us to guide us in the way that we should go (Isaiah 30:21). Have you heard this voice today or lately? Without His guidance, how will you know when the devil is approaching? How will you know the inheritance He wants you to possess (Deut. 2:24). How will you know which answer to give when confronted to give up your faith (Luke 21:15). If you are prepared to fulfil your destiny on earth in Christ, you must drink from the cup and be guided by the same Holy Spirit that was in and on Him. We must be baptised in the anointing that lived in Him, and be initiated into the order of Melchizedek that He belongs. We do all these through our steadfast fellowship with Him, by His word and His Spirit.

We know that in Him we have the inheritance of faithfulness and righteousness, so we will endure all it takes to possess our souls (Luke 21:19). This is what makes us joint heirs in Christ. Jesus tells us the process of having enduring prosperity, though with persecution in Mark 10:29-30; we must be really ready to work. Paul cautioned in 2 Thessalonians 3:10, “For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat.” This is equally the spiritual law, and the reason why Angels only appeared to those who have obtained favour personally or by extension in His sight. By extension, I mean descendants of the bearers of His covenant. You can approach the Lord today in prayer and tell Him you are willing to drink from the same cup with Him; that you are willing to receive the Melchizedek anointing to function properly in His courts. He won't reject you (John 6:37). Take it with boldness and He will strengthen you to succeed in the call (Psalms 116:13). You might be born again, but not functioning in your calling. You need to remedy that before it is too late.

Faith confession: I understand that those who are joint heirs with Christ are those who truly represent Him here on earth as His witnesses and have drank from the cup of salvation.

Let us pray: My Lord, set my heart to receive this cup from your hands that I may become drunk with the wine of the new testament. Purge me from corruption and uphold my destiny in your palms. Amen!

Meditation: Psalms 116:1-19

The Enemy of Financial Planning

Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked. Revelations 3:17



We are back again to our financial planning. Today is Saturday, are there any expenses we made that was not planned for? Are we still owning debts that we have not paid? What lessons did we learn from all our financial engagements this week? Remember, since on Wednesday that we have been talking on issues bordering on how we can strengthen our relationship with God, enjoy our inheritance and avoid those that can bring us down. Do not also forget that the devil is a devourer and we must avoid whatsoever will attract him into our life. In today's devotional, I want us to look at some of the enemies of financial planning as we end this topic. The first is indecision and procrastination. Ecclesiastes 11:4 says, "He that observeth the wind shall not sow; and he that regardeth the clouds shall not reap." The wind can represent all the bad news that you hear daily, such as insecurity. My advice is as before – let your paths be directed by the Lord. If you can allow the word of God to direct your footsteps, you do not need to look at the fearful sight of the storm. Despite the troubles around many are still manifesting their God-given gifts and talents to earn a living. Another enemy of financial planning is unwise investment. There is a popular saying that "actions speak louder than noise." Ecclesiastes 10:2-3, puts it this way, "A wise man's heart is at his right hand; but a fool's heart at his left. Yea also, when he that is a fool walketh by the way, his wisdom faileth him, and he saith to everyone that he is a fool." People judge us by our actions. If we keep losing out in our investments, it shows that we have not applied the wisdom of God. I advised earlier – settle down and really study your Bible. Seek counsel from God in prayers or

meet a genuine Christian who is succeeding to teach you how to plan financially and invest wisely. Another is lack of training and diligence. The effect of this is seen every where today, as also reflected in Ecclesiastes 10:7, "I have seen servants upon horses, and princes walking as servants upon the earth." This is the reason the children of some rich do not know how to manage business, since servants do everything for them. Even now, I have seen Christians having great investments but don't employ Christian youths, because most of them lack the character to be considered for employment, hence unbelievers become the most favoured in job interviews, while Christian youths are waiting for God to come down from heaven and put food on their tables. There is also, what I call the "irony of the pond" in my wealth making book. The "irony of the pond" simply captures the mind of the owner of a fishing pond who is expectant of a huge harvest until the entire pond is drained and the actual catch counted. Many want to empty their bank accounts before working again.

Faith confession: Today, I am strengthened to move forward. I learnt that all I need is to keep trusting in God and not to look at the winds set forth by the devil to destabilize me

Let us pray: Lord! I pray, let your everlasting will be fulfilled in my life. I surrender my thoughts into your hands. Invade my heart with your character and let me live to please you all the days of my life. Amen!

Meditation: Matthew 6:19-21; Matthew 12:29; Ecclesiastes 10:20

The Finger of God

*But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength;
they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run,
and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.. Isaiah 40:31*



The terror mounted against us by the prince of this world is daunting. Therefore, we must put on the full armour of God made available to us the day we decided to follow Christ as advised in Ephesians 6:13. Some preachers and prayer warriors have misinterpreted this to mean we have to keep shouting and stamping our feet on the floor to defeat the enemy. Those who win battles do not shout or scream. They are good at strategizing and taking the enemy by surprise. This was Jesus own explanation of how to overcome the enemy in Matthew 12:29, "Or else how can one enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he first bind the strong man? and then he will spoil his house." The real reason for all night prayers of making loud noise is based on Zechariah 1:10, that the Angels, "...whom the Lord hath sent to walk to and fro through the earth" will hear them and come to help them in battle. The truth is that while these Angels can respond to battles, they still take instructions from the Lord, who need to await the approval of God the father. And, when it involves spiritual battles with Satan, it is not usually an easy task as we can see in Revelations 12, and Jesus saying He would need 12 legions in Matthew 26:53, "Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels?" As we live upon the face of earth His Finger preserves us from evil (Matthew 6:13). But we also need to avoid evil (Exo. 23:2; 1 Thess. 5:22; Matthew 10:23; 1 Tim. 6:11). The Finger of God can deliver, not because we call on Him but when it please Him to manifest His awesomeness. So, we cannot command Him

as we want. Hence, Apostle Paul advised in Ephesians 6:14-18, that the full armour of God we must put on includes: Truth, Righteousness, Faith, Salvation, Word of God by the Spirit of God, and Steadfastly watching temptations to ensure we are faithful till the end. If it were easy to manipulate Angels to kill our enemies, Jesus wouldn't tell Peter that the devil will afflict him (Luke 22:31), and He would not expect that some of us will give in to the temptations of the devil, in Luke 18:8, "Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?" The Finger of God is powerful, it is the power that set things in motion. It is the power that lifted Jesus from the grave. It is the power that helped Joshua to succeed. Yet, it is only available when we are sincere in our service to Him (Jeremiah 17:10). So, I would advise that instead of engaging in spiritual warfare, use the time to study about Him more – thank Him for all His goodness and worship His majesty. His Finger will be there to encourage you.

Faith confession: I understood that spiritual warfare is not really an easy battle. It is a battle of spirits, and that all I need to be mindful of my salvation in the Lord, by whom my sins are forgiven.

Let us pray: Dear Lord! I need the grace to follow you and stand in faith till the end; and your encouragement by your Holy Spirit, and that your Angels will surround me to protect my soul. Amen!

Meditation: Daniel 7:13-14; Exodus 8:16-19

Elected unto Grace

My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. James 1:3



To be spiritually informed is to be physically transformed. Obtaining grace is by divine election. The choice is made in the heavenly places of who and who should obtain what measure of grace. Jesus explained the process as follows. It involves recommendation for Angelic ministration- Luke 12:8, "Whosoever shall confess me before men, him shall the Son of man also confess before the angels of God," and recommendation for sainthood election, "Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven." Now, while the first one carries immediate response of healing (because there are healing angels), prosperity and other favours, the election unto sainthood is gradual. Again, there is a special kind of grace that follows whoever the Lord recommends to the father for sainthood election, to mature them in the things of the Lord. This was the case with Apostle Paul. The moment he started his ministry of reconciling the Gentile nations with the purpose of God, and turning them away from idolatry, grace was made sufficient for him - 2 Corinthians 12:9, "And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness." The grace was for him to keep doing the work assigned to him and not to condole sin. Paul was not the kind of sinners we have on pulpits today, that keep using Paul as an excuse to dwell in the ocean of sin. Grace is made available for soul winners. Grace is also available for financiers of kingdom course of crusades, printing of evangelical material, building of houses of worship, etc. Grace is made available for worshippers –

those whom the Lord has blessed with the voice of consecration to officiate before His altars all around the world. Grace is made available for teachers of faith. Grace is available for those on missionary works. Grace is there if you want to study deeper to know more about God and His will for mankind. Grace is there – but not for everyone. It is for those who yearn to work for God. It is for those who have rejected the world to live their lives for God in the consciousness of Christ by the holy Spirit. Grace was made available like a wine of victory for Joshua. Grace was the manna the Israelites ate and their clothes and sandals didn't become worn out as they journeyed to answer the call of God – those that disobeyed died in the wilderness. Grace was there for Abraham to complete the journey successfully to Canaan and to dwell there. Grace is there – it is always there. Walk your way back into His heart, and your election unto grace is sure.

Faith confession: I walk my way back to where grace will find me. I am a child of grace. I am a product of grace. Grace has found me. I am in the arms of Grace. Forever will I live by Grace.

Let us pray: My dear Lord and saviour. Today, I submit myself under the anointing of your abundant grace. Let your mercy lead me to your grace. I desire to be elected unto Grace. Help me Lord. Amen!

Meditation: 1 Peter 3:12-13; 1 Peter 4:1-2, 12-16

Perfecting the Love of God

...strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it. Matthew 7:14



We demonstrate love to others through the way we respond to their call for help. We know that we are experiencing the love of God through His loving kindness in good health and other provisions that enables us to keep body and soul alive. Yet, there are some of us that enjoys more of the love of God than others. These are those whom the hosts of heaven have confirmed their loyalty to the purpose of God through trials and commitment to the call of God, of retuning the world back to the oath of righteousness. These people are hated for the truth. They are scorned for ever daring to challenging evil in society. Their unpalatable message makes them the enemy of the multitude who prefer lies provided they can be fed with a morsel of bread. Scripture says in 1 John 2:5-6, "But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him. He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked." The reason many are unable to walk perfectly with the Lord is because they still experience want. But, we do not need to have all before we come to Him to faithfully follow His way. To be frank, the disciples did suffer lack, to the extent they have to eat the premature corn they harvested from the farm in Matthew 12:1, "At that time Jesus went on the sabbath day through the corn; and his disciples were an hungred, and began to pluck the ears of corn, and to eat." So, hunger should not make us reject faith. We should stand firm to then end so that we can become His most precious works of salvation on earth. We become those His Angels will reveal themselves to. As channels of heavenly blessings and favour on earth, the earth itself is

waiting for us to be blessed by God. This is what Saint Paul explained in Romans 8:21, "Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God." So, you can see that everything depends on us. The land needs healing, from the day Adam sinned and it drank the blood of Abel. Every plant, animal and humans who depends of the land are in pains. This was why God told Solomon that He will heal the land on the conditions He mentioned in 2 Chronicles 7:14, "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." Until we receive the perfection of His love by ensuring our souls follow hard after the will of God, we won't see increase. You can see the reason why many Christians still experience lack, despite claiming to be born again. Our righteousness must exceed mere wishes and sayings. We must act it, live it, profess it, confess it, and point others to it.

Faith confession: Dear Lord – I am motivated by this devotional discussion to keep following you in purity of heart, because I know that your love will be perfected in me for all to see the reward of the faithful.

Let us pray: Lord! The more I study your word, the more I see that the path is becoming narrower and that only few people will finally be elected unto your glory. Help me to be among this number. Amen!

Meditation: Romans 8:1-39

How to Receive Great Mercy

For great is thy mercy toward me: and thou hast delivered my soul from the lowest hell. Psalms 86:13



Just as we said that His love must be perfected for us to enjoy some special benefits and favours from God, so we ought to receive His great mercy. We talked of receiving special grace earlier because of the task ahead – this is often referred to as a measure of the grace or anointing. Today, I really want us to look beyond mercy – but to desire been honoured to receive great mercy. The kind of mercy that makes heaven to answer our prayers, that makes the hosts of heaven to avenge our case with the speed of light. The kind of mercy that will make the earth to quake when we make declarations. The mercy that is beyond mercy. The mercy that is unfathomable. This is the mercy I am talking about. It comes with great demands, but I am sure you can meet up with the demands of Gods. Remember Jesus says, in Matthew 11:30, “For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” He won’t lie about it. Attaining the level where you can receive great mercy – not the mercy to keep living in sin (Numbers 14:18), but the mercy to overlook some of your minor shortcomings, is worth labouring for. Great mercy comes with walking with God in truth, righteousness and uprightness of heart (1 Kings 3:6). We have noticed even in our time; how many are delivered from the kind of accidents that no one is expected to survive. This is great mercy, because there is a task that the survivor is expected to fulfil for God. In most cases these people are not aware and they play over the matter. This is a serious matter. Neglecting the great mercy of God is an unforgivable offence. If you are a recipient of His great mercy, please take your relationship with God seriously. In

effect, you are expected to keep using your testimony for soul winning. Great mercy is available for those who are mindful of His presence and will not want to offend Him by abandoning their calling (Psalms 103:11). We can see that despite the threat to David’s life, he ensured that He fulfilled that call of becoming the king that will lead Israel into victory. Great mercy is for those who serve faithfully and wait on the timing of God to receive their breakthrough (Luke 1:58). In effect, great mercy brings great breakthrough and great testimonies. God grants it to those He wants to use as testifiers of His abundant mercies. If you can ask God to make you a recipient of His great mercy, and that you will use your testimonies to win souls for Him, he will grant you your heart wish. I am a recipient of His great mercy. So, I know what I am talking about. I always pray that He use me as a bearer of His anointing and that through me others will come to know Him as God. He has not failed me. Talk to Him now. His great mercy is available for those who ask sincerely.

Faith confession: I rejoice in your infinite mercy. I desire your great mercy. I want to swim in your great mercy. Give me the testimonies that will dumbfound men. Let my breakthrough story be celebrated by others.

Let us pray: Lord! In your power and atoning grace, do I commit my soul. Let your great mercy make away for me. Sustain me under your grace and distinguish me with your great mercy. Amen!

Meditation: Lamentations 3:22-58

Reason for the Anointing Oil

...This shall be an holy anointing oil ... whosoever putteth any of it upon a stranger, shall even be cut off from his people. Exodus 30:31-33



Let us start from the basis, and why we anoint our head. Jesus was not happy with Simon for not anointing His hair when He visited him, in Luke 7:44, "My head with oil thou didst not anoint..." From here, we will see that anointing the hair with oil is a sign of honour and respect for the one that is anointed. Jesus was not expecting Simon to get the consecrated oil from the temple, what He meant here was the olive oil that we have around us. At the time Jacob anointed the stones he raised as altars at Bethel in the Genesis 28:18, the formula for the holy oil was not yet given. When James ordered that the sick be anointed in the name of the Lord to receive healing, he was not telling them to practice the old priesthood order with the consecrated anointing oil from the temple in the Old Testament. In effect, the name of the Lord was all that was needed for the anointing oil to be consecrated and bring forth forgiveness and healing. Why am I saying all these? Some have decided to visit all manner of places looking for a special anointing oil with the ingredients that Moses used in Exodus 30:22-25. Some unbelievers have argued that the olive oil we use today is not holy, but ordinary cooking oil. This is not true. If water can be consecrated, why can't the olive oil that has been used for anointing dating from ancient times? This said, the anointing oil can only be effective when the bearer is ordained to use it. This is why the oil is taken to pastors to bless it. Yet, once it is blessed it has to be kept in a holy environment else, it will become defiled. So, if we are not certain of maintaining the same spiritual purity that can make the anointing oil to continually carry the name of the Lord, there is no need bringing it to your home. If you are also not sure

that after your head is anointed with the oil, you will not remain sinless, steadfast, and dedicated to the service and worship of the Lord, it is useless presenting your head for anointing. The anointing oil used in the name of the Lord of hosts is for the purpose of "setting apart" for the service of God. It shows that you have made up your mind to follow Him with no recourse. It carries power to protect us, our material possessions, children, securing jobs and positions, etc., but you must be faithful to your service to God, else the anointing is of no value. The oil is used to transfer anointing during impartation. It earmarks us for angelic ministration. When the oil comes upon your head, you must become conscious of angelic fellowship, so you must avoid quarrels, sexual immoralities, stealing, lying and all sinful acts that will make them angry and leave. It is like calling your trusted friends to come around you and you end up doing the kind of things that you know so well that will offend them. If you know you will still live in sin, do not use the anointing oil once it carries the name of the Lord. It is betrayal of trust.

Faith confession: Today I understand that the anointing oil consecrates my head. And, that once I receive the anointing oil in the name of the Lord, I am set apart for his use, and should remain so.

Let us pray: Dear Lord, I might have offended you by going back to sin after receiving your anointing oil. Forgive me for this great ignorance. Help me to stay away from all that offends you henceforth. Amen!

Meditation: Psalms 89:20-35; James 5:14-15

When God is Angry!

*The Lord is slow to anger, and great in power,
and will not at all acquit the wicked. Nahum 1:3*



I want to encourage us to be mindful of the anger of God. Scripture says severally that God is slow to anger. But, Nahum captured the essence of this slowness to anger. It is to ensure that His judgement is without biases, as the wicked is finally punished for their sins. Many have questioned why God is not destroying the wicked now as we have read in the Old Testament. Yet, all the scripture passages that says that God is slow to anger are all in the Old Testament (Nehemiah 9:17; Psalms 103:8; Psalms 145:8; Joel 2:13; Jonah 4:2; Nahum 1:3). What does this reminds us? If God would allow the enemies to overcome Israelites because of their disobedience to Him, we must also be expecting His anger when the multitudes of our sins have gotten to an unpardonable height. So, hiding under the fact that Christ is our mediator and so God cannot be angered anymore is mere wish, and does not have scripture basis. Many see the God of the Old Testament as different from the God of the New Testament, because to them – the God of the Old Testament is full of anger and revenge while the one of the New Testament is full of compassion. What a lie. Let's take one of the verses mentioned above – say, Psalms 145:8, which says that "The Lord is gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy." Is this scripture New Testament? The answer is No! So, has God changed? The answer also is No! We should not use the abundance of grace in Christ as a yardstick to dwell in the ocean of sin. Those who perpetrate such belief that God is now more merciful than He was in the Old Testament are not matured in handling scripture. They are those who are not willing to

let go of their evil and wicked ways. Severally, when the New Testament writers wrote their gospel or epistles, they quoted from passages in the Old Testament. Jesus says He came to fulfil the Old Testament (Matthew 5:17; John 5:46). We see, God is the same yesterday, today and forever. What has changed is the mode of operation. Jesus gave us unending access to grace, so that we can repent before the wrath of God will come down. That access does not guarantee us to keep committing sin against faith (Romans 6:1). Jesus is not going to appear to the whole world again, until the last day. He will only appear to those who look for Him (Hebrews 9:28), to perfect their faith and His love for them. So, I would encourage us to look forward for that revelation of Christ to those who sincerely follow Him. This is how you know you have been elected by God. Avoid sin. Live to please the Lord. Be committed to the work that God has laid in your heart. Why am I doing this work with all zeal? It is because Christ has revealed Himself to me and He is revealed in me.

Faith confession: I humble myself before your throne today o God. I will never take your slowness to anger as a license to keep living in sin, and take your work with levity and hilarious disregard.

Let us pray: My Lord and King, strengthen me to live up to your divine expectation for my soul. Let me not live a life that offends you. Let me not appreciate evil and those that do them. Save me from sin. Amen!

Meditation: Luke 13:1-35

The Aura of a new Spirit

It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life. John 6:63



How will you feel, to wake up to a brand new life of peace and tranquillity, which only the Lord can give? We must have read of how Steve Jobs, despite all his wealth died a heartbreaking kind of death. He was sick – yet the best doctors could not give him life. Jesus says, in John 10:10, "...I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." How many people responded to this invitation to have a brand new life that is always full of the life that God has given as His breath upon mankind? Jesus gave us a clue to why many will not want this new kind of life and spirit – John 3:19, "...light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved. But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God." Honestly, I used to think that many of the people we refer to as Christians, and even pastors were truly committed and sold out to champion the course of salvation. But, eleven years counting, I can write here that I am yet to see that man or woman who is truly committed to the things of God, based on the standard of measurement present in the Bible. I have seen that many preachers only pick an anchor verse that fulfils their immediate aim and need without looking at the overall interest of God. I might be wrong. But, this is my candid observation. There was a time, I became so disappointed trusting those claiming to be believers. And, the reason was the chase of how to come out of poverty and make more money. It was all about wealth making. And, as I write, with all their run around

looking for where to hear prophecies of who is hunting them and seeking where to only hear sermons of prosperity, I have not seen them improve any better in life. This problem is linked to the absence of the spirit of God. What can one possibly do without the spirit of God? Jesus says that it is the spirit that quickens us to act rightly (John 6:63). While it is an edifying thing to speak in tongue and be drenched in His billows, it is more important sustaining the purpose of His presence through inner spiritual purity, which is to return the world to God. All we need now is this new aura of the spirit. We need more hunger for the spirit. We need more submissive characters to the prompting of His spirit. We must be willing to be fully restored unto spiritual sanctity in the Lord. We must overcome lustful imaginations (Matthew 5:28). We must be determined to stay focused on the purpose of the cross, seeing Jesus crucified to save the world from sin. We cannot conceptualise our worship in modernity and contemporary ideas if it is not approved by the spirit of God.

Faith confession: Lord, I am willing to become enveloped in the power and presence of your Holy Spirit. The purpose of the Holy Spirit must be fulfilled in my life. Quicken me dear Holy Spirit, henceforth.

Let us pray: Lord, Let this understanding quicken my spirit to continually yield to your will for my life. Let my mind continually reflect upon the reason you gave me your life. Help me overcome sin. Amen!

Meditation: John 16:1-33

Anointing by Faith

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. Romans 10:17



I entered into an office some years back, and I saw that all the computers and printers were marked with a special label. The information technology specialist told me that each of the labels I saw have been coded into the server, with specific protocol identity that enable the computers and printers to communicate with one another, and to the central server. As I write this topic today, and wanted a better illustration – my mind became filled with the information I just gave on how the computers and printers are connected to the central server through a protocol. What is a protocol? It simply means rules and processes of inter-connectivity when used in this context. Now, let's discuss our topic. We are all individuals, though distinct, yet are we connected to a common plan and purpose. To achieve a perfect connection, a protocol – representing lines of thoughts and communication have to be instilled in us. With this protocol of communication, we are linked to the will of God for His creation. From time to time, just like the software which establishes the protocols of interlink communication between the computers and printers are updated, so also our faith in the purpose and plan of God is continually updated through hearing, and hearing by the word of God (Romans 10:17). This is the reason for having a quiet time with the Lord alone, and the continual hearing of the sermons of faith. Usually, when the software that establishes the protocols of communication is being updated in our computers and networked machines, the computer usually displays that the process will take some minutes, during which you are not expected to shut down the computer or

even have access to work on it. Does this send a message to us, that while we are updating our protocols in that quiet time that we are expected to shut down from physical access until the protocol is downloaded and fully installed? Again, to update sensitive software, the computer needs a source of continuous power. Now, let our inner human spirit become the battery of your computer, and the source of external power become the Holy Spirit of God. Age and usage drains the battery, so it is with us – age and usage drains the anointing that our spirit carries – it is the reason God usually transfer anointing to the younger generation. Once the battery drains, it needs to be recharged, this is what we do by asking for more of the Holy Ghost anointing. My computer is always on external source of power, because I am always on it. So, also we must be powered always by the spirit of God – especially now that the world has gone haywire. The days are evil – please ensure you are always connected.

Faith confession: Lord – Thank you for this illustration that you gave to your servant. I now understand fully how to remain in the presence of the Holy Ghost, to be charged beyond failure.

Let us pray: Oh Lord! I pray –for your continual infilling based on this illustration. Let me be continually connected to your presence, and let my heart be quickened by your word and truth always. Amen!

Meditation: Hebrews 11:1-40; 1 Corinthians 12:4-11

Calling God to Witness

And there arose certain, and bare false witness against him. Mark 14:57



When we pray, we are calling God to witness. When we give our testimonies, we are calling God to witness. Often, we think we only call God to witness when we swear to declare our innocence. When the prophets of old say that they were speaking from God, they were equally calling Him to witness. When we lift up our hands in worship, we are calling Him to witness. When we pray in the name of the Lord, we are calling Him to witness. When we preach the gospel and teach same, we are also calling God to witness. In 1 John 4:14, the apostle who wrote the book of John was so sure of who Jesus was that he said, "And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world." This is how we become witnesses of God on earth. If we that have experienced His grace and mercy, and all His stupendous goodness fails to declare Him as our Lord and Saviour before others through the life we live, how can we claim to be the witnesses of God? This implies that the life we live equally calls God to witness before those who are not born-again. I have heard some say – "if this is how Christians behave, I am not interested in their God." This is how many of us have insulted the grace we received freely from God through Christ, by living lives that do not represent His person. This is why judgment will start from the house of the Lord. Jesus said of John the Baptist in John 1:32, "And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him." John saw clearly and spoke. If we, who are the forerunners of the second coming of our Lord, can see clearly beyond the physical, we can become better witnesses of

Jesus Christ. What we see now is a mockery of Christ. King David called God to witness before the people through His Psalms, as he presented God exactly the way He is. Let's see an example of where he called God to witness in 2 Samuel 23:2, "The Spirit of the Lord spake by me, and his word was in my tongue." How many of us can be very sure we are speaking from God today? The prophets in scripture told us what they heard from God. Jesus told us He only did what the father did. The apostles said they were representing Jesus. They all called God to witness. This is how to represent God and His purpose in Christ. What have you heard from the Lord through the Holy Spirit? This is why we see Christians running from one Prayer Mountain to the other. Is this how the apostles were running? Did the household of Cornelius climbed any mountain to receive the Holy Ghost? They listened to Peter as he magnified Jesus before them and the Holy Ghost came to edify him and the people. Let us think about this - how much of God we can present before others from today.

Faith confession: Lord- I understand that I call you to witness in what I say, through the works I do, through my worship in your house, through the associations I keep, and through the life I live.

Let us pray: Oh Lord! I am willing to become your witness. Please send me your witnessing spirit so that I can represent you the way you are before the world. Amen!

Meditation: Mark 14:55-59; Revelations 1:1-2; John 1:32-34; John 12:17-18

A Hunger for Holy Spirit?

...the spirit of the Lord... set me down in the midst of the valley which was full of bones.. Ezekiel 37:1



Our discussion so far are pointers to why we need to keep attracting the spirit of God. No matter how we see it, though the spirit of God is like God, being omnipresent, His effective manifestation demands that we create the necessary environment. X-raying the incident in the upper room in Acts 2, is necessary to understanding how the Holy Spirit can be attracted into our gatherings, so that we can continually serve God in truth and in spirit. Until we have the Holy Spirit in our midst, the cloud of His presence cannot be present. Any Christian gathering without the presence of the anointing order is a mere waste of time, because pastors will become liars who only come and tell us their mind, and not the mind of God. I don't waste time sitting to hear rubbish concocted with the wisdom of man (Jeremiah 8:9). If the Holy Ghost is not there of what use is our gathering? To listen to comedians who come to insult the work of God or to look at the glamour of the pastor and his latest pair of shoes and suits? The Holy Ghost only came down with so much power because the apostles had a mission ahead of them, and they were all present in one accord. It was not a fanfare gathering. It was not a gathering to admire the sweet voice of a female singer. It was not an entertaining ground for celebrities to show off their physique and fashion. It was serious business – the business of heaven. They were empowered from above, and the ministry of Christ spread like wild fire. Haven't we gathered to pray all night? Where is the empowerment? Haven't we sang and cried as though the spirit has taking over our reins? Still, sexual immorality has come to stay in our midst. What are Christians really doing? Is it to show off our wealth? Is it not a shame that we claim to have up to 2 billion Christians worldwide and we are

so impoverish spiritually worldwide? Just 120 – only a 120 faithful witnesses gathered and they took the world by storm. Yet, I hear people admire the mixed multitudes that gather every Sunday under a roof we call cathedral, who leave the way they came to church – no encounter unto repentance, no remorse. God said in Jeremiah 32:34, “But they set their abominations in the house, which is called by my name, to defile it.” Can we really keep the house of God clean from abominations with our drive for numbers? Can we keep the house a place for the Holy Spirit to manifest, when our women dress sexy? Can we keep abominations out of the house of God, when our pastors are fashion crazy? Is it possible to keep the house of God a place where the hosts of heaven accompanied with the Shekinah can reveal the heart of God to us when we invite comedians to insult the very essence of salvation? Have we not insulted the ordinances of God? Where is the Holy Spirit? Is it the fake experience we manufacture when we start to cry out of emotions? If the Holy Spirit is with us, our lives will experience both spiritual and physical transformations.

Faith confession: I am touched by this topic. I am willing to preach against the defilements going on in the house of God. I am ready to preach the truth to save our generation from spiritual ignorance.

Let us pray: Lord- I pray not to be a barrier to the manifestation of your spirit. Teach me more of your truth so that I can reveal your heart to your children, to save them from this ignorance. Amen!

Meditation: Jeremiah 23:1-40

Dealing with Unbelief

And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief. Mark 9:24



The problems we have in the house of God, as stated in yesterday's devotional is not unconnected with unbelief. Have you looked into the eyes of many we call believers and discover that they harbour more unbelief about Christ than unbelievers? Unbelief pushes God away (Matthew 13:58). I can tell you that we have more unbelievers in our churches today, and I am sure you agree with me. Believers are testifiers – not just of the miracles they received from God through Christ, but of the person of Christ. In 1 John 1:1, we understand how a believer should feel and speak – “That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life.” This is what it takes to be a believer. I know Christ. I have His word. The Lord spoke to me. I heard angels singing. It is a confirmation of reality. Believers are not the multitudes who wave hands on Sunday. They are those who know their God. Daniel 11:32 says, “...the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits.” Believers don't pant in the midst of trouble. Daniel gladly went into the Lions den. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego believed that God will deliver them from Nebuchadnezzar. You see what I mean? To me, the true definition of a believers is one who overcome the test of faith by his or her faith in God. Where is our faith when we now run to all manner of spiritualists to see vision for us? Where is our faith when we are terrified at the provocations of the enemy? Have you noticed how even pastors pant when they hear that churches are being attacked by hoodlums? It clearly shows how far we are from faith. Be encouraged not to lose focus in Christ. The apostles succeeded in their ministry by His

spirit. We can equally succeed by His spirit. Be encouraged to stand tall no matter what. Do not allow the rantings of the devil to make you sweep your faith under the rug-never! When my faith is stretched – I only stay back to hear what the Lord says, and that settles it. Unbelief goes with hardness of heart – a mind that is not willing to change old ways. This is why Jesus says we have to receive this new wine into a new wine skin. Doubts is multiplied when we listen to the stories of how other Christians have failed. Brethren – Christ did not fail. He is your faith. Look unto Him, and your faith will move that mountain out of your way. I don't believe I will fail – it doesn't cross my mind because Christ is alive. If you must be healed from unbelief then you need to keep the companies of those that believe only in what God can do through Christ and not by human wisdom. God can do it. Just believe in the power of His Christ. He can do it. Any contrary voice is that of the devil. It is this firmness in faith that brings miracles. Again, be encouraged – God can do it.

Faith confession: Today, I understand what unbelief is all about and what causes unbelief. I am determined now to safeguard my consciousness from any discussion that will affect my faith in Christ.

Let us pray: Lord! Deliver my soul from every iota of unbelief in my heart. Strengthen me by your own self so that I can follow you wholeheartedly. Let me not fail you again because of unbelief. Amen!

Meditation: Mark 16:14-20; Romans 11:20-22; Matthew 17:19-21

Living the Anointing

...the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing. Isaiah 10:27



We are all gifted, being born for a purpose, but many of us have yet to discover that we can grow and develop better in our individual gifts through the anointing. Whatever gift you have, which has given you the ability to be talented in some specific things which you do with ease or in a career you are pursuing, the anointing is what beautifies it to the extent that it will be appreciated by people, and then you will blossom. This beautification process is your own responsibility (Matthew 5:16). The anointing is the arm of longevity from God. It is what takes us out of sin and links us to the glory of God, for all have sinned and come short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23). 'Touch not my Anointed' is the Lord's instruction in 1 Chronicles 16:22, and everyone who would want God's guardianship and leadership would sincerely and diligently seek to become anointed. The anointing is sometimes in your name and it spells your duty on earth as we would see in many of the Biblical names. This is why Herod wanted Jesus dead, because the Anointed is a threat to those in power who are ungodly. Great works come with the baptism of the Holy Ghost, enabling one to be on fire for the things of God, so that one can stand against evil practices. That is the whole essence of the anointing. Jesus says: "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." (Acts 1:8). The anointing is for good works. Apart from your ability to do the

work of God with zeal, the anointing, as I have seen in my own case as an engineer, will enable you to succeed even more in your chosen career in life, because the voice of the Lord will be leading you from behind whenever you are about to take a wrong decision: 'And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left' – Isaiah 30:21. In order to commence work, the Anointed follows due processes which he receives from God. Jesus says He came to fulfil the law. This also include the training the Anointed must undergo to become perfect (Galatians 4:1-2; 2 Timothy 2:15). Jesus had to listen to the teachers of the law at age twelve. Jesus says that it is the duty of the Anointed to fulfil all righteousness (Matthew 3:15). The Anointing admits you into the Anointing Order of Melchizedek and brings announcement, increase and establishment. Pray for a release of the anointing. You will be glad you did. It is what creates the evidence of Christianity in your life.

Faith confession: I am willing to live your anointing. I am determine to follow the Lord wherever He leads me with His anointing.

Let us pray: O Lord! Let faith arise in my name. Let your anointing establish your purpose in my life. Distinguish me with your blessings as I bear your anointing. Amen!

Meditation: Leviticus 21:1-15; Psalms 20:1-9

Honouring God in our midst

...Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Matthew 6:9

We honour God in our midst when we regard His person and all that concerns Him. I learn severally from King David, who had the opportunity to harm Saul, despite being after his own life – decided to let him go unharmed because he honoured the anointing of God upon Saul. In 1 Samuel 26:9, we read the reason why David decided not to harm Saul: “And David said to Abishai, Destroy him not: for who can stretch forth his hand against the Lord’s anointed, and be guiltless?” We can honour God in our midst when we care for the things that are dedicated unto His name, such as the place of worship, the instruments of worship, those He has anointed and called to lead us to Him, and anything that bears His name or done to honour His name. This is the reason I find it difficult to collect fliers of church activities when I know I will surely not attend. I have seen some take fliers and shred it. King David said, for fear of being guilty before God, it is good that we honour anything and anybody connected to His name. While Belshazzar was enjoying wine with the golden and silver vessels which his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken out of the temple which was in Jerusalem, the Angel of the Lord came to give a verdict of his end (Daniel 5:2-31). When the church started in my house, I once left the offerings behind at the altar. When I was resting on my bed, I heard – “Is it because you have money that you left my offering to be stolen?” That was when I ran down to take the offering. Since, then I am careful and treat anything that bears His name with honour and the highest regard. A story was told of a couple who came to poverty after the wife forcefully went back to take the car her husband had bought for their pastor. Since then

- the woman has been plagued with a sickness that is yet to respond to treatment and the husband lives in abject poverty, as I write. Many will ignore this and call it fate, but it is beyond fate. The worst part of it is that, it does not really end with the perpetrators – it burns through their generation. This was why when Daniel was praying, he didn’t pray for himself alone, but he equally was confessing the sins of his generational fathers – Daniel 9:20, “I was speaking, and praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel...” Whatever we dedicate unto God, become His own and He will position His Angels to be in charge of it, the way He promised Solomon in 1 Kings 9:3. “...I have hallowed this house, which thou hast built, to put my name there for ever; and mine eyes and mine heart shall be there perpetually.” This is why they are usually redeemed from the priest in the Old Testament (Leviticus 27:14-15). If you dedicate your child to God, that child belongs to Him. Same goes to our cars, lands and anything we have poured the anointing oil upon. We must keep our homes, offices and church holy, so that we do not pollute His sights and He will avoid us (Deuteronomy 23:14).

Faith confession: I shall continually honour God in my life, home and wherever I found myself so that His presence will help to deliver me from the plots of the enemy.

Let us pray: Lord, help me to honour your presence in my life. Let me regard your person in my home, office and in the church. Guide my heart to be conscious of this always. Amen!

Meditation: Daniel 9:1-27;
Deuteronomy 23:14

The Anointing Order

...thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over... Psalms 23:5

Earlier on the 15th of this month, we discussed the Melchizedek Anointing Order. In today's devotional, and being the last for this month of August, I want us to discuss a little deeply about this anointing order. Hebrews 5:9-10 says, "And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him; called of God an high priest after the order of Melchizedek." Again, Hebrews 6:19-20 says, "Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which entereth into that within the veil; whither the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek." These two scriptures quoted above are enough for us to start thinking about this anointing order. Further in Hebrews 7:1, we know who Melchizedek is – "For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the most high God..." What do priests do if not to officiate before God and to anoint kings and queens (1 Kings 1:34). In Acts 10:38, we come to know that Jesus was anointed to become the high priest after this order – "How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power..." So, whoever that is called by the Lord and anointed is possessed by the Holy Spirit and filled with power to function in the stead of Jesus Christ here on earth as Elisha functioned with a double portion of the anointing upon Elijah. This is why we are named joint heirs with Christ. So, we become ordained as royal priests and peculiar people (1 Peter 2:9). This ordination is connected with Melchizedek. We have the earthly Melchizedek order and the Heavenly Melchizedek order. Both work hand in hand

and linked by the Holy Spirit of God to ensure the will of the almighty is fulfilled on earth. The Lord is the one called the ancient of days, in Daniel 7:9, who came down to establish the link. The earthly Melchizedek order was instituted in Eden, and the ancient of days used to visit Adam, until the sin that disconnected the earthly order from the one in heaven. Whenever we receive Christ into our hearts, and the Holy Ghost fills us, we are linked to the order. However, we still need the anointing oil from anyone ordained into the order, to be fully admitted to function, and then prosper. We have those called and appointed personally by God to function and recruit souls into this order. These are they who bring others by using the anointing oil and/or the laying of hands followed by declarative prophecy. This is captured briefly in 1 Timothy 4:14, "Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery." The dedication of children is usually an admission into this order, for onward guide and follow-up by the Holy Spirit and Angels.

Faith confession: Lord – I desire to be anointed to function in this anointing order. I desire to be linked and admitted into this order of spiritual authority.

Let us pray: Lord: I yield to your anointing. My heart is yearning for an infilling of your anointing, and to be elected into your anointing order – the Melchizedek order. Amen!

Meditation: Palms 89:20; Psalms 45:6-7

NOTE

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Covenant Confession

If you are not born again, you may have studied this devotional as literary material and will not receive the spirit therein. You can make a decision to correct that now by saying this covenant confession:

Lord Jesus, I know now that you died for my sins. I believe and confess you as my Lord and Saviour. Please come into my life and dwell inside me.

If you just said this confession, you should locate a spirit-filled church to join in fellowship with them – let the pastor know you just gave your life to Christ and you will be directed on what to do next. Salvation is a personal race and you must be serious with it.

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WEDNESDAY
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SUNDAY
8:30AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL
7:30AM

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- A total transformation in the way you Think and Act
 - Understanding the basics of the Christian life
 - How to Exist as sons of God
 - How to Manifest the true Nature of God
 - Total Freedom from satanic maneuvers
 - How to make Heaven

About the Author

Pastor Oghenethoja Umuteme encountered God the day he was baptised at St Stephen's Anglican Church, Owhelogbo Delta State, when he received a warm feeling in his heart as he confessed the Lord Jesus as His lord and personal saviour. His birth was surrounded with mysteries – he was born to a mother who had been barren for eight years. There was hardly anything he said that did not come to pass as he was growing. In 1994 he had a dream in which he received an orange which contained a bible with a red cover. Events continued dramatically until he started hearing voices telling him to go for rescue, as many souls were heading for destruction. Then it became clear to him that he was being called to carry out the task of restoring mankind back to Jesus.

In January 2006, he heard a voice telling him to read Isaiah 42. On



reading to verse 6, he felt a deep force within him and started trembling and a voice said - 'I have called you.' As he read further

he was getting immersed in the spirit of God and when he read verse 22, the voice said, 'this is your task.' Then on the 13th of October 2008, he heard a voice while driving: 'Service starts in your house on Sunday.' Events happened that were beyond his understanding and on Sunday 19th October 2008, the first public worship service came to pass.

He is trained at Rivers State University, Nigeria; Robert Gordon University, UK; UNICAF University, Cyprus; Nations University, USA; and TGSAT, India; leading to academic degree certificates in engineering, organisational psychology, divinity and theology. He has over 11 years' work experience as an engineer, growing to the position of Engineering Design Lead in the oil and gas industry, and equally has a rich curriculum vitae that covers trainings and experiences in other works of life, such as human resources management, marketing management, legal studies, alternative dispute resolution, etc. Pastor Oghenethoja Umuteme is married to Pastor(Mrs.) Umuteme Adokiye Obele, who supports him in the call of God upon his life, and their marriage is blessed with children.